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1. (Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:  
reception means for receiving images generated from a plurality of  
communication terminals;  
output means for outputting the images received by said reception means  
in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and  
notification means for acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the  
images by said reception means while said reception means is receiving the images.

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2. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein  
the state of reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received by said  
reception means.

3. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein  
said notification means changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception by said  
reception means.

4. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein  
said notification means changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a  
frame rate of an image received by said reception means.

5. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein  
the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon  
indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

6. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said notification means does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

7. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification means comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

A 14 sub C3 8. (Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:  
receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;  
outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and  
acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images in said receiving step while performing said receiving step.

9. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the state of reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received.

A 15 sub C3 10. (Amended) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception.

A16  
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11. (Amended) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of a received image.

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12. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 10, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

13. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 11, wherein the notification is not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

14. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the notification comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

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15. (Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:  
reception means for receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;  
output means for outputting the images received by said reception means in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;

A16  
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assigning means for assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;  
control means for controlling a state of outputting of the image assigned by said assigning means; and  
notification means for acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images by said reception means while said reception means is receiving the images.

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16. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the state of reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received by said reception means.

17. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception by said reception means.

18. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of an image received by said reception means.

19. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

20. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein said notification means does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

21. (Unamended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

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22. (Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:  
receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;  
outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;  
assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;  
controlling a state of outputting of the assigned image; and  
acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images in said receiving step while performing said reception step.

23. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein the state of reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received.

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24. (Amended) A communication method according Claim 22, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception.

A 18  
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25. (Amended) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of a received image.

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26. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 24, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals .

27. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 25, wherein the notification is not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

28. (Unamended) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein the notification comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

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comprising:

29. (Amended) A storage medium storing a program, said program comprising:  
reception process code for receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;  
output process code for outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and

A 14  
Concl.

notification process code for acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images by said reception process code while said reception process code is receiving the images.

30. (Amended) A storage medium storing a program, said program comprising:

- reception process code for receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;
- an output process code for outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;
- an assigning process code for assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;
- control process code of controlling a state for outputting of the assigned image; and
- notification process code for acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images by said reception process code while said reception process code is receiving the images.

#### REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and 30 are the independent claims.